

TiMES .10

Vol 1 Number 3
April/May 1994



YOUR MAGAZINE of CHOICE

RELAX!

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TIMES .10

YOUR MAGAZINE of CHOICE

Vol. 1 Number 3

April/May 1994

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Edmonton, Alberta

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From the Editor

Winter was hard and now the longer days of sunlight are making their way to summer. The economic realities are upon us, as unemployment adds hardship to our community. We are doing well despite these matters over which we have no control. Allen Ginsberg recently wrote: "the key to social action is basic friendliness. Anger is not useful". When was the last time that anger ever had beneficial results? In our own hearts we know that the answer to all our problems is simple acceptance.

So let's talk about some of those things that we can do something about in our daily lives. Here is a question to pose to the Nay-sayers who constantly slash and tear down everything around us. Is it with some inner satisfaction that you try so hard to tear down persons, places and things? Why do these glorious critics spread such lies about people in the first place? Perhaps it is a good way to cover up an inability to tell the truth or say nothing all. You have heard those words "...so and so is HIV positive, you know..." The words slither from the restless tongue of the viper snake. You will not get the facts from this killer of persons, only useless information.

Then of course, there are the armchair critics. This character is right out of Alice in Wonderland. In their own mind they hold all the recent rumours, lies and innuendoes on everyone and everything. So much time is spent criticizing that a self-examination would require a lengthy hospital visit. If you simply ignore these people they will vaporize into their own web of lies. Want to have some fun with the critics? Ask them the simple question: to which community groups, organizations, services do you donate your time? The last time they were involved in anything their parents had to change the diaper. Are we having fun yet?

So you out there, keep your friendly attitude. You are supportive in ways that you will never know. That is a compliment from the heart.

This issue brings a number of new writers who wish to share their thoughts. We also have a special letter from Councillor Michael Phair. We are very proud of our writers. They are the leading edge. A special thank you goes to Richard Kennair. He interviewed Nina (nice pic!), Mike at Northern Chaps and found time to gather up some thoughts on community life.

We have started working on the June issue and will also be publishing in July. So keep in touch with us and remember to support those who support the community.

TIMES .10

THE CREW

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members of the
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Aids Info
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"Middle East Uses Family Values Against AIDS" Reuters After learning that the AIDS epidemic has a small but firm foothold in the region, the Middle East—long dependent on conservative family values in the battle against AIDS—is demonstrating a new willingness to try other strategies to counter the disease. Promotion of marital fidelity, however, remains the primary message. The region's strategies also include encouragement of earlier marriage to reduce the "period of temptation" among young men, compulsory testing of foreign workers, and the possible introduction of mandatory pre-marital testing. "This part of the world is very fortunate in its religious and social values and culture which teach people self respect and morality," said regional World Health Organization official M.H. Wahdan. "This region has not reached the moral crisis seen in some other communities. Traditional family values, ethics, and religious beliefs are encouraged and welcomed rather than criticized." An estimated 100,000 people in the Middle East have been infected with HIV.

"Phila. Area Gets \$7.4 Million for People With HIV" Philadelphia Inquirer Philadelphia and its suburban counties have been granted \$7.4 million in federal funds to provide medical care and social services to HIV patients, the city's health department announced yesterday. According to Health Commissioner Estelle B. Richman, the \$2.7 million increase over last year's award for the area is partially the result of "outstanding regional cooperation" in planning AIDS services. "Philadelphia has become a model of AIDS care throughout the country," she said. Across the nation, 34 cities received a total of \$320 million, provided under the federal Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency CARE Act.

"Painfully Aware" Government Executive With the flood of programs over the past five years to counter discrimination on the basis of race, sex, disability, and age, "awareness" training has become a large and expanding federal activity. Most recently added to the list of areas requiring special instruction is AIDS. In September 1993, President Clinton mandated that every federal worker receive AIDS awareness training. "Attendance at HIV/AIDS education and prevention training must be mandatory," said the White House memo, because "required attendance removes any 'stigma' attached to an interest in HIV/AIDS and underscores that everyone has some reason to be concerned."

News From the Battlefront



"Officials, Activists Applaud AIDS Funds, Say More Needed"
Boston Globe City officials and AIDS activists in Boston welcomed the news that the metropolitan area has been awarded \$3.9 million in additional federal funding for emergency health care services for AIDS patients. They cautioned, however, that with the increasing number of infected people, much more money was needed. Boston will receive the money—about \$800,000 more than anticipated—under the Ryan White Act, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced on Monday. "It's a big boost," said Todd Summers, executive director of the AIDS Housing Corporation and former co-chairman of the Boston HIV/AIDS Services Planning Council. State officials report that 3,527 people in Massachusetts have AIDS, estimate that at least 20,000 more are infected with the virus,

"Japan's Two Months AIDS Total is Highest" United Press International Japan's Health and Welfare Ministry reported on Wednesday that figures from its AIDS surveillance committee showed an HIV/AIDS tally of 66 for the months of January and February—the highest number recorded during a two-month time frame. The bimonthly total was a dozen cases higher than reported in the previous two-month time frame, and brought the total number of those infected with HIV or AIDS to 1,476. Of the 66 new cases, 42 were men and 24 were women, the committee reported, also noting that the figures excluded people infected through blood transfusions.

"Blood Package Called 'Disgraceful'" Toronto Globe and Mail Janet and Randy Conners, the Nova Scotia couple credited with forcing provincial Canadian governments to compensate people who contracted HIV through contaminated blood, called the \$150 million package "shameful and disgraceful" for failing to cover the expense of prescription drugs. While Nova Scotia pays for their prescription drugs, other provinces place this burden on the patients. "It's shameful and disgraceful that everyone is not getting their drugs paid," Janet Conners told a public inquiry. "The package doesn't provide a decent level of care; it condemns people to poverty and suffering." Dawna Ring, a lawyer for the group Canadian Hemophiliacs Infected with HIV/AIDS, said "Once you pay \$20,000 for prescription drugs, there is almost nothing left over for food, shelter, children's clothing, etc.,"

"Foreigners With HIV to Attend Gay Games" Washington Times The Clinton administration will permit HIV-positive foreigners to attend the Gay Games in New York in June. After being advised by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that there was no public health reason to prohibit the brief stay, Attorney General Janet Reno yesterday approved a waiver to a rule prohibiting people with HIV from entering the United States. Visas granted under the waiver will allow visitors to stay in the country for up to 10 days. The Gay Games are scheduled for only eight; two days were set aside for travel. Between 10,000 and 15,000 participants and spectators from more than 40 countries are expected to attend the event.

"Canada Considers AIDS Test for Sex Offenders" Reuters Canada is contemplating legislation that would require convicted sex offenders to undergo AIDS testing, a government official announced yesterday. Federal Justice Minister Alan Rock said that a government committee is examining the legal implications of testing for HIV. He said that although victims of sexual assault want mandatory testing, the rights of the accused have to be considered as well. "We're taking a look at it because there are people who argue quite strongly that for their own peace of mind, they want to have access to such information," said Rock. "There's going to be a balancing effort to take into account the Charter of Rights and the right of every person to be free from mandatorily giving bodily samples."

"Actor Dack Rambo, Played Jack Ewing, Dead at 52" Reuters HIV-positive actor Dack Rambo, who portrayed the character of Jack Ewing on the long-running nighttime soap opera "Dallas," died on Monday at the age of 52. The actor died shortly after being admitted to Delano Regional Medical Center, said the facility's spokeswoman, Jan Minot. She declined to identify the cause of death; however, Rambo announced in 1990 that he had tested positive for HIV. At that time, he also quit his role on the daytime soap opera "Another World." His other credits include "All My Children," as well as television series including "Sword of Justice," "Never Too Young," and "The Guns of Will Sonnet."

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The proper and consistent use of latex condoms when engaging in sexual intercourse—vaginal, anal, or oral—can greatly reduce a person's risk of acquiring or transmitting STDs, including HIV infection. In fact, recent studies provide compelling evidence that latex condoms are highly effective in protecting against HIV infection when used properly for every act of intercourse.

The protection that proper use of latex condoms provides against HIV transmission is most evident from studies of couples in which one member is infected with HIV and the other is not, i.e., "discordant couples." In a study of discordant couples in Europe, among 123 couples who reported consistent condom use, none of the uninfected partners became infected. In contrast, among the 122 couples who used condoms inconsistently, 12 of the uninfected partners became infected.

Correct condom use should include the following steps:

- * Use a new condom for each act of intercourse.
 - * Put on the condom as soon as erection occurs and before any sexual contact (vaginal, anal, or oral).
 - * Hold the tip of the condom and unroll it onto the erect penis, leaving space at the tip of the condom, yet ensuring that no air is trapped in the condom's tip.
 - * Adequate lubrication is important, but use only water-based lubricants, such as glycerine or lubricating jellies (which can be purchased at any pharmacy). Oil-based lubricants, such as petroleum jelly, cold cream, hand lotion, or baby oil, can weaken the condom.
 - * Withdraw from the partner immediately after ejaculation, holding the condom firmly to keep it from slipping off.
- Myths About Condoms** There continues to be misinformation and misunderstanding about condom effectiveness.
- Myth #1:** Condoms don't work. Some persons have expressed concern about studies that report failure rates among couples using condoms for pregnancy prevention. Analysis of these studies indicates that the large range of efficacy rates is related to incorrect or inconsistent use. The fact is: latex condoms are highly effective for pregnancy prevention, but only when they are used properly. Research indicates that only 30 to 60 percent of men who claim to use condoms for contraception actually use them for every act of intercourse. Further, even people who use condoms every time may not use them correctly. Incorrect use contributes to the possibility that the condom could leak from the base or break.

Myth #2: HIV can pass through condoms. A commonly held misperception is that latex condoms contain "holes" that allow passage of HIV. Although this may be true for natural membrane condoms, laboratory studies show that intact latex condoms provide a continuous barrier to microorganisms, including HIV, as well as sperm.

Myth #3: Condoms frequently break. Another area of concern expressed by some is about the quality of latex condoms. Condoms are classified as medical devices and are regulated by the FDA. Every latex condom manufactured in the United States is tested for defects before it is packaged. During the manufacturing process, condoms are double-dipped in latex and undergo stringent quality control procedures. Several studies clearly show that condom breakage rates in this country are less than 2 percent. Most of the breakage is due to incorrect usage rather than poor condom quality. Using oil-based lubricants can weaken latex, causing the condom to break. In addition, condoms can be weakened by exposure to heat or sunlight or by age, or they can be torn by teeth or fingernails.

Recommended Prevention Strategies Abstaining from sexual activity is the most effective HIV prevention strategy. However, for individuals who choose to be sexually active, the following are highly effective:

- * Engaging in sexual activities that do not involve vaginal, anal, or oral intercourse
- * Having intercourse only with one uninfected partner
- * Using latex condoms correctly from start to finish with each act of intercourse

Other HIV Prevention Strategies

Making Responsible Choices In summary, sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection, are preventable, and individuals have several responsible prevention strategies to choose from. But the effectiveness of each one depends largely on the individual. Those who practice abstinence as a prevention strategy will find it effective only if they always abstain. Similarly, those who choose any of the other recommended prevention strategies, including condoms, will find them highly effective if used correctly and consistently.

United Nation —

"A Celebration of Common Bondage and Party Mayhem"

This was the theme which took us into the seventh annual Gay Edmonton pageant. Seven years ago this past February, Emperor and Empress XII, Teddy Bear and Ora Fice were instrumental in the organization of a city wide pageant to pick representatives for the titles of Mr. and Mz. Gay Edmonton. As members of the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose, the Gay Edmonton titles became stepping stones to other positions within the organization. Mr. Mz. Gay Edmonton, although ambassadors to our fair city, usually do a phenomenal amount of public relations and fund-raising. The Gay Edmonton representatives are, in fact, responsible for raising the majority of funds used to supply the John M. Kerr Memorial Scholarship. These monies are given away annually.

The pageant, held February 26, had a number of "first" involved with it as well. This was the first year that the pageant was held outside the clubs. Of the approximate 200 people in attendance it would be safe to say that three quarters were adorned with a bead, a sequin or a pearl somewhere. Last year was also the first year that a Lesbian title "Miss Gay Edmonton" was included. Unfortunately, no womyn elected to participate in this years event.

Congratulations to the outgoing Gays Darrell and Donna, and to the incoming new title holders Brad and Roberta. (pictured below) For more information about Court related activities call Gaylines at 486-9661

Mz. Gay Edmonton I
Empress XIV
Leah Way



Letters

Dear Editor

Congratulations on your magazine. I am impressed. I look forward to your continued publication. With 1994 declared as the International year of the Family, I hope you can use your publication to encourage the gay community to afford other the opportunity to experience gay family life.

We are including a photo of our front garden from last summer. My neighbours and some passers-by who stopped to look at the flowers had the opportunity to discover the Pink Triangle along with a little of its history. There are many ways to counter prejudice and foster acceptance. And by the way the triangle was planted with I think is the perfect plant - Ageratum Pink Powderpuff!

Graham Watts

(Editor: thanks for the photo Graham.. don't think black and white would do it justice)

Dear Editor

I managed to get a copy of the most recent issue of Times .10. I am impressed with what was done with the Brief to the Commission. It came out very positive and very well.

It's a good publication.

Sincerely

Lorne Warneke

(read Lorne's article in this issue - the unpublished letter sent to AR)

Dear Editor

Really happy to see an Edmonton publication for our Gay and Lesbian community. I work with a lot of young people dealing with their sexuality. Is it

possible to publish some of their stories in your magazine?

Sarek

(Editor: still waiting for those stories <smile> anytime)

Dear Editor

I am quite concerned about some recent events at the Options Room nightclub, here in Edmonton. Recently, a girlfriend of mine, Laura, was at Options with me when she was harassed by one of the bouncers there for "public display of heterosexual behaviour in a gay establishment." As a note: she was hugging a male friend (who is gay). Thinking that the bouncer was a little confused, she went to the management and explained what had happened. You can imagine here surprise when she was told that, that was a policy of the establishment!

To say that Laura was hurt, is an understatement. She marched in the gay pride parade, speaks out against homophobia, and is a very dear friend to myself, my partner, and several other gay and lesbian people. I am thoroughly outraged that she would be rejected by the community for being "straight". After all the fighting that we, the gay community, have done to have civil rights guaranteed to us and to accepted by a heterosexual society, how dare the gay community condone this same abusive and prejudicial treatment-based on sexual orientation!?

I feel that it is important to inform the gay community of this type of abuse, as it is imperative that we not be guilty of the same type of actions that we are working so hard to counter. Please publish this letter so that the gay community can guide the actions of OUR nightclubs to acceptable policies and actions in the future.

Rob Bieber

(Editor: Oh dear, do you mean a person could hug their same sex lover and not get thrown out for deviant behaviour)



City of Edmonton
Michael Phair
Councillor, Ward 4

March 1994

Congratulations to Times .10, My Magazine of Choice ! I have certainly thought that Edmonton needed a magazine that reached out to the lesbian community and I - along with thousands of other Edmontonians - welcome Times .10.

Since my election to City Council from Ward Four in 1992, my assistant Lorna Murray, a number of dedicated volunteers and I have been active on a number of fronts:

* On March 02 at the Province's *Review Panel on Human Rights*, the City of Edmonton made a presentation urging the government to include sexual orientation in the Individuals Rights Protection Act.

* Through the work of a *Water Conservation Advisory Committee* that I initiated, City Council deferred the building of additional water purification facilities, thereby preventing a water rate increase. Furthermore, the City has agreed to undertake water conservation activities in 1994.

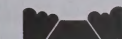
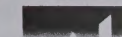
* A recent City report about the impact of provincial cuts on people receiving social assistance has shown that many Edmontonians are living in dire circumstances. I requested this report and will continue to push the Province to change its regressive policies.

* The Mayor has established a *Task Force on Investment in the Arts*, to which I have been named as City Council's representative.

* Every day brings calls and letters from Ward 4 residents who need help with a host of issues: taxes, building and development permits, snow removal and neighbourhood organizing have been predominant in the last few months. I also appreciate the calls and letters from people who want to offer opinions - such feedback is essential and welcome.

Times for all of us, including politicians, are very difficult. If my office can be of assistance, please contact us.

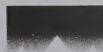
Michael Phair
Councillor, Ward Four



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Leather and Levis

A Profile of Northern Chaps

by Richard Kennair

It is a group who I misunderstood. A group where preconceived notions and stereotypes were embedded in me, without any justification. I think we all have gone through this, fearful of learning more, relying on naive judgements or hearsay. Who is this group you ask? It may be one of the more misunderstood groups in the gay community and the impression I gained from their President is that they don't mind the misunderstanding. They are NORTHERN CHAPS - Edmonton's Leather/Levi club.

I met with the President of Northern Chaps, Mike Kurylo, in early March to talk about the club. This turned out to be one interesting interview

covering everything from computers (Mike runs The Beast BBS) to the "Hanky-Code" (you know, when you run up to a friend of yours who has been around for a while (usually Mr. Vera for me) and go "what does that colour mean in that pocket"). I

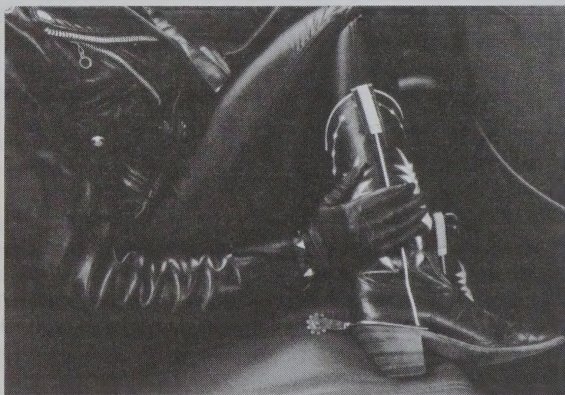
learned something new about myself, through learning about part of OUR community.

Northern Chaps started in 1986-87, a group who "seek to explore the boundaries of their sexuality, including the use of certain associated dress, signs and symbols, and safe, sane and consensual behaviours." The organization itself is structured to be unstructured. Unlike other organizations they are NOT charitable or non-

profit. They exist primarily for their members as a club who share a common interest. It is a social/recreational/support group, whose biggest public display is the Alberta Drummer competition, although they have some other public events throughout the year. Aside from this, they are often not seen to be publicly active - but they are, they are just not "in your face".

With about 50 members, it a good size for a club. This is emphasised by the fact that they do not actively recruit members. Through maintaining a high degree of approachability, those who are truly interested join of their own volition, regardless of the RUMOURS of "Back Room Initiation". When I thought about it, I realized that this approachability was very true, although not really knowing Mike, I had always found him

approachable - willing to discuss anything, and other members I have met have been the same way. Mike noted how on "Pub Night" when a group walks into Boots the crowd clears away from them (I keep thinking of Moses and the Red Sea thing). This is based primarily on the preconceived notions of



"Leathermen" rather than fact so it seems. It's not always a bad thing - they always have room.

Whilst leather groups, in general, are the "Avante Garde" group when it comes to sex, with reputations (sexual practices such as Sadism/Masochism, Bondage/Domination, Watersports, Fisting, Rubber and Latex Fetishes, etc.) that make some people cringe, they may be the safest group by the same token. Mike stated

how every encounter arises only after a series of negotiations. The hanky code, like many other symbols, is, in itself, a negotiation - it allows others to see the preferences of a potential date. That is the start of the negotiation. Unlike encounters for a lot of people (where you find out what the other wants once back at their place), by the time they have decided to go home together, leathermen generally have a very firm idea of what exactly will be pursued, to what extent, and what the limits are. If you look at how Northern Chaps was formed, in part, to "explore the boundaries" and emphasises "safe, sane and consensual" this is understandable. If you think about it, it is the smartest thing to do, discuss what you want to happen before you go home and find out that both of you are tops! With the necessary openness, it is possible for one to vocalize his or her fantasy - something that a lot of people don't do for fear of ridicule -

but Northern Chaps allows one to do just that, and your fantasy may become reality.

I mentioned earlier about the Drummer Contest. I know some of you may be wondering what that is. No, it is not where people go to see who has the best beat ... well it may be, at times, who can hit skins really well (I will explain). The Drummer Competition, as a whole, is 3 levels of competition comprising of numerous components. These levels are Local, Regional, and International. Worldwide, there are only 19 regions (with an imposed limit of 20) which range from Australia to Europe. Alberta is part of the 19th region, Western Canada, as are Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and, British Columbia. The winners of the local (for us, all of Alberta) go on to the regionals, and those winners go to the International Competition where an International Drummer is "crowned", and used by Drummer Magazine for endorsements, etc. (cont'd pg 30)

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A letter to the editor

(sent to Alberta Report, but was never published)

Dear Sir:

The January 8, 1993 edition of Alberta Report had a cover story and editorial on the subject of homosexuality, presented in a very negative and unbalanced manner. It implies that homosexuality was a life style choice, that activism by homosexuals was designed to "induct" others and that the current AIDS phenomenon was, more or less, a deserved consequence of all this. As well, there have been many other instances of negative coverage on the subject of homosexuality in the media. Many articles are clearly designed to propagate myths about homosexuality and verge at times on what could be called hate literature.

A few comments need to be made about heterosexuality to place the subject of sexual orientation into perspective.

To date, medical science cannot explain what "causes" heterosexuality. An individual is born with a sexual orientation that is predetermined. Heterosexuals do not choose to be heterosexual, they are so from birth. Their orientation is a biological, thus immutable characteristics of themselves. Sexual orientation (sexual object choice) must be differentiated from sexual lifestyle, which is the expression of sexuality

regardless of what orientation an individual has.

Heterosexuals have had their "AIDS epidemic". Syphilis was rampant for centuries up until 1905 when the spirochaete called *Treponemum pallidum* that cause the illness was discovered. Hundreds of people have died from syphilis over the centuries, mostly heterosexuals since homosexuality was very much repressed by society. Syphilis cause serve neurological damage and eventually dementia. Many historical figures had syphilis and the course of history probably changed by the illness. It has been theorized that Columbus brought syphilis to Europe from the new world. However, syphilis probably existed in sub-epidemic states for centuries in the Old World and before the time of Columbus. Fortunately, after concerted efforts by medical science, an effective cure was found in the form of sulpha drugs and then penicillin. Syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases such as gonorrhoea, chlamydia, trichomonas, and genital herpes all remain a problem mostly because of heterosexual transmission. The megalomaniacal clinical state of heterosexual males (and females) with neurosyphilis is a thing of the past although at one time this was very common in insane asylums.



423-HOMO
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MAN HUNT

WEDNESDAYS

Heterosexuality also has had its so called revolution and days of activism. Following the Victoria era of sexual repression and the almost as repressive decades that followed, heterosexuality broke from these constraints with the "free love" movement". "Key clubs", wife exchange, multiple partners, group sex, and so on became more common. Kinsey reported in the early 1950's, that over 70% of males had visited a prostitute at least once and about half had an affair even though they were married. The current very high rate of divorce in Alberta does not suggest stability in heterosexual relationships.

Some aspects of heterosexual expression have been considered a disorder in the past. Women were considered abnormal if they enjoyed sex or had orgasm during intercourse. This thinking prevailed until the early part of the century. Clitoridectomy, the removal of the female counterpart of the head of the penis was a common and accepted part of surgical procedure to prevent women from falling into the "pleasures of the flesh". Masturbation was considered abnormal by the medical profession as recently as 30 years ago, and was thought to cause, among other things, intellectual feebleness, weak eyes, epilepsy, and even social decline!

Over the years, heterosexuality has been responsible for brothels, sex slaves, prostitution and so on. The thriving sex trade in cities like Bangkok, where young girls are sold into sexual slavery as young as ten or twelve, makes one wonder about some of the various aspects of the expression of heterosexuality.

It is well established that practices such as cunnilingus and fellatio (both terms for oral sex)

are very common amongst heterosexual couples. Sodomy (anal intercourse) is also not uncommon. Heterosexual males who make up 90% or more of the male population account for at least 90% of practices such as incest, pedophilia, voyeurism, exhibitionism, frotteurism, rape, or sadomasochism.

All of these are activities found in heterosexuals. Does this represent the typical heterosexual lifestyle? Obviously not. A visible but small minority of heterosexuals are involved in such activities. The silent majority are minding their own business conducting sexual activities in the privacy of their own bedrooms, most likely in the context of a monogamous relationship.

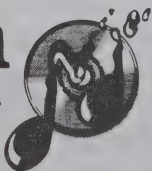
A few points about homosexuality will now be made.

The "cause" of homosexuality, like heterosexuality, is not known. Enlightened medical thought has evolved to the point that homosexuality is no longer considered a psychiatric illness. Any modern psychiatrist would confirm this. Homosexuality was deleted from the list of Psychiatric disorders in 1978. (cont'd on page 33)

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HOROSCOPES

BY David Michael

WE REALIZE THAT YOU ARE ALL INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT ASTROLOGY BASED SOLEY ON SUN SIGNS CAN GIVE LITTLE MORE THAN VAGUE GENERALIZATIONS. ALL ASTROLOGERS NEED BIRTH DATA OF DATE, TIME AND PLACE TO GIVE ANY TRULY PERSONAL MEANING TO A MONTHLY PREDICTION..... BUT VAGUE GENERALIZATIONS CAN BE FUN AND TANTALIZING AT TIMES.

ARIES Winter's done; spring has sprung, and the new moon of April 11th should really bring this home to you. A two year period of obstacles, challenges, & just plain confusion for many of you is marked by a turn around this birthday season.

TAURUS Delays, setbacks and obstacles to plans mark the coming months, but your tenacity can see you through if you don't give in to the pessimism & doubt which so often plague you. The Lunar Eclipse of May 10 forces you to take action in a new endeavour. This is the last birthday of an old cycle.

GEMINI February was Slow, March played 'Catch-up' but now the wind picks up for a fast moving April and May. Watch your darker side around April 9th as there are angry repercussions a month later. It's sometimes hard to be yourself amidst the expectations of others.

CANCER Life is clearing and less sapping at last for you, and this trend should continue over the coming year. A crying jag is useful on April 11th and May 10th, and May could bring flashbacks of some of winter's moods, but except for those born at the end of this sign, the spring looks smooth.

LEO Hurdles you thought you'd passed a couple of months ago are likely to rise again in this post Easter period... possibly in new guises. Welcome this as an opportunity for growth, thankful that you've got a second chance to put these issues to rest. For a few, there is a third round coming later in the year.

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THE OTHER SIDE

VIRGO Vitality is low this year for you who are born early in the sign. Attention to details and diet will see you through. If your Mate seems hard on you or hard to bear, remember you're getting better all the time — no need to critique them — they are trying.

LIBRA "Looking for Love in all the wrong places"? Or are you just looking for your mirror? Meet with someone from a couple of months ago in the 2nd week of April for partnership potentials. If romance seems likely, play it calm for the first six weeks. If you're Partnering for business, better to sign no long term contract 'til after June begins.

SCORPIO Your "If it's worth doing, it's worth going for broke" motto so excercised in early and mid winter might come under examination at the full moon April 25th and cause you some opposition a few weeks later around May 10th. Remember, shedding the skin of secrets and being consumed in the fire of truth is the way the Phoenix rises from it's own ashes.

Sagittarius Unconscious behavior patterns that might be your undoing come to light through a few incidents this next couple of months. The reversal of your fortunes at January's end will continue until early summer or until you make the needed adjustments.

CAPRICORN With only minor blocks, April is smooth, but May could bring a temporary sense of doubt about the worth of the long haul. You alone know how much your honor is at stake. The race goes not always to the fleet of foot but sometimes to the surefooted, so keep your sense of caution but also your sense of purpose.

AQUARIUS You know, don't you, that the old tried and true methods that worked before won't anymore, for you. No longer is there safety in following society's path — you must strike out in new, creative, self actualizing directions. "Do as Thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law".

PISCES Although it may seem as if you're being dragged to earth against your desires and some of you are banging into brick walls, you have within, the faith and imagination to take that earth and brick and build your own castle this year. Call on your dreams for guidance and keep faith.

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Club of Cooks

by Walter McLean

Healthful, easy, fast recipe:

Tortilla Pie (Mexican Lasagna)

Ingredients (8 servings) 2 Tablespoons vegetable oil (corn oil is preferable) 1/2 Cup course chopped onion 2 Cloves garlic, finely chopped (add more for health) 1/4 Cup (or more for heat) Jalapeno peppers (fresh or canned) 1 Cup salsa sauce (any commercial brand) 1 (7.5 oz.) can of tomato sauce 1 Cup chicken stock or vegetable stock or water 1 Cup milk 2 Cups grated monterey jack cheese 3 Cups cooked chicken (bite size) and/or cook canned beans, pinto beans, chick peas, kidney or any other) 18 Corn tortillas 1 Cup grated cheddar (old is best)

Method - Heat oil in saucepan, and saute and garlic until onions are transparent. Add jalapeno peppers, salsa and tomato sauces, stock or water, milk or jack cheese, stirring constantly until cheese is melted. Add chicken and/or beans and remove from heat. - Place 6 tortillas in bottom of greased casserole pan approximately 12" x 12" x 3". Cover with 1/3 of chicken/bean mixture and cover with another layer of 6 tortillas. Repeat, ending with a layer of mixture on top. Sprinkle top with grated cheddar. Bake at 325 F for 40 minutes. Remove from oven and let stand 10 minutes at room temperature before cutting and serving. Accompany with a salad. (Mexican corn and avocado salad in next issue of Times .10)

If preparing for future use or preparing for future use, refrigerate up to 3 days or freeze. Re-heat thawed at 350 F, covered with foil for about 30 minutes or until hot to taste. Remove foil for last few minutes of cooking. This dish is also delicious at room temperature in the heat of the summer. - This recipe is high in carbohydrates and filling, especially if beans are used.

Tips

- Low fat dairy products should be used in lower animal fat cookery
- Do not use aluminium pots/pans for cooking with tomato based sauces as they may leave a metallic taste
- Cooking your own beans ahead is less expensive and has more nutrients

- Always enjoy your food with friends

I will give you a good recipe for a great summer salad in the next issue. For membership info on Club of Cooks Unlimited contact Walter at 477-1898.

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THE FRONT PAGE

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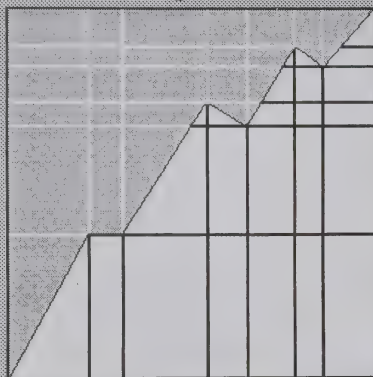
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The Darling

of Porn:

Nina Hartley

Wearing leather boots Marsha would kill for, and very little else, Nina Hartley came into the store at which I work as part of a whirlwind, cross-Canada tour. Not knowing what to expect of a "Porn Star" and with preconceived notions of "Barbie" running through my head, I was in for a pleasant shock. I had joked with Dennis that I should interview her - after meeting with her, I knew that I had to interview her.

For those of you who don't know who Nina Hartley is, I have already stated that she is a porn star. Having been in the business for over ten years now, she has been in a few hundred films. Those of you who watch any of the major talk shows may have seen her - she has been on them all. The reason that I initially thought to interview her is that although she is married, she is openly bisexual and has had a live-in female lover for years.

Nina Hartley is a woman with an intellect - a very strong intellect. Contrary to commonly held notions that people do porn because they're too stupid for anything else, Nina

Hartley has her B.Sc.N. (Bachelor of Science in Nursing - she graduated Magna Cum Laude, from San Francisco State in 1985). She can, and did, talk about anything. Conversation ranged from the erotic qualities of an enema to John Holmes (I don't do shetland ponies); from T.T. Boy (Nice body, nice butt, nice ... typical California Boy) to racism and the historical basis behind minority poverty in Canada

and the States. She is a woman with a vision, one who knows where she is going. Meeting with her was an experience I won't forget.

Having arranged to meet with Nina at her hotel, I arrived as she was putting her hair in curlers (the fans like her with curly hair). With little make-up, glasses,

and more clothing she looked much more real - more sensuous and sexy in my view (but who am I to comment). The meeting ended up being less of an interview and more of a chat with an old friend. No real questions were asked, topics just flowed. Nina talked on numerous issues, some which will be related here.

On the Porn Business. "I am a bisexual exhibitionist who doesn't like getting arrested for having sex in public ... What's a person supposed to do for excitement?" That the reason Nina gives for getting into porn. She started out eleven years ago through stripping and stage shows. As she stated, this venue provided her with the opportunity to have casual sex



with as many women as possible. She started making films ten years ago, and now directs and produces. Nina is one of, if not THE, only starlet who insists that all of her actors wear condoms during a scene. Yes, in gay porn there is shock and horror if anyone after 1985 is not covered, in straight porn there's shock and horror if there is. This is strange, considering some big names in straight porn have died from AIDS.

On Sexuality in general. The opinion that there is an unfair division when it comes to sexuality was very evident throughout our conversation. The disparity is that bisexuality in women is accepted, if not expected, but in men it is the greatest taboo. Apart from notable exceptions (Stryker and Ramsey/North are good examples), the stigma of being in gay porn, whether straight or not, results in a difficulty in crossing over from one to the other. On being asked if it was due to AIDS, the response was no. The stigma reflects general societal apathy towards the gay community. However, the female "actresses" are often in womyn to womyn scenes, and are very well received. Nina's of the opinion that this disparity is disgusting, effectively (tying in with her feelings on sex) there should be few restraints on who a person sleeps with.

Nina feels that access to education regarding sex is too restricted for the youth ... leading to repressed sexuality. She feels that a youth who is allowed to gain a healthy appreciation of sex in an

unbiased manner will benefit more than one who is not (is this not what the gay community argues for?). This does not mean she endorses adolescent fooling around, but that ideally, everything should be open and sex

promoted as a natural function not simply for procreation. For example, a lot of people have the preconceived notion that missionary is the only way to have sex ... NOT.

On her Sexuality. Nina started out as a "Berkely Dyke" and stated that she was often referred to as a Baby Butch. That is how she sees herself, very much the aggressor. Nina's definition of sex is very non-male - she loves to have sex with womyn. She is



fascinated with female bathhouses and sex-clubs. She is not really into Butches, and really does not go for leg-hair. In fact her feelings on sex are: take out the minors and the non-consenting and Edmonton is a playground. She likes sex.

On the Male Stars. Yes, I had to ask about all of the hunky straight male porn stars that I could think of. I got some good answers. However, the basic thing Nina had to say about the men in porn was that she pitied them. Her reason, the women can fake it, I would like to see a guy fake an orgasm. She related how one male porn star had done scenes 30 days in a row. (cont'd on page 35)

Our Community Groups and Services

AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

The Network retains its original operating philosophy: to provide support and education wherever it can be helpful in north-central Alberta. AIDS Network of Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. Today the network provides: Education, Info-Line, Speakers Bureau, Resource material and various Support groups. If you wish to know more about the Network call 488-5742

Alberta Society for Positive Women

The society is dedicated to supporting the needs of women with HIV in the province of Alberta. We provide support, education and advocacy to women with HIV. This is provided through our Peer Counselling (488-5768), Support groups (424-6346), Education (488-5742) and Speakers Bureau (488-5742).

Alcoholics Anonymous

A A is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

Badminton Group

The group meets on Fridays at Oliver School between 7:30 - 9:30 PM. Use the door at the north entrance to the school. Everyone is welcome and some equipment is available. A small donation of one dollar is appreciated. Contact Frank at 990-1696 for the December and January schedule.

Edmonton Prime Timers

Prime Timers is a social fraternity for older gay and bisexual men and their friends. The purpose of Prime Timers is to provide an opportunity for mature gay men to fraternize and join together in a programme of social activities. If you would like more information drop a line to Edmonton Prime Timers, Suite 1093, 11444 - 119 Street, Edmonton, T5G 2X6.

Edmonton Vocal Minority

We are a group of women and men who join together in a common love for music, and the desire to build a greater spirit of unity and pride in the gay and lesbian community. We strive to bridge the gap which can separate us from the mainstream of society. Persons who wish to sing with the choir should call David at 424-1561. Support members are welcome to join by phoning Janet at 469-6148.

Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society

The Feather of Hope was founded on a need to provide AIDS education and support to Native People in Alberta. Through education and the development of communities in partnership, it is hoped that the spread of AIDS will be lessened. We offer training and education programs, as well as support through traditional ways. Volunteers are very important to us, if you can help, or would simply like some more information call 488-5773

Gays and Lesbians on Campus (GALOC)

GALOC is a university based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 pm on campus; main floor of the Athabasca hall. Topics vary from week to week.

Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (G.L.C.C.E.)

The centre contributes to the well-being of Edmonton's gay, lesbian and bisexual community through informational, social support services and its social information line. The services offered by the centre include an information line, telephone referrals, library, drop-in peer support counselling and social activities arranged and sponsored by the centre. Further information is available at 488-3234

Gaylines

A new service to the Gay and Gay positive community is available. The intent of this line is to aid in the forming of a central information net that will aid all walks of life. Messages are outgoing only. The line is setup in a single location that will be permanent and will also be listed in the phone directory. It is free to all Alternative Lifestyles, Support groups, Clubs, Individuals and Businesses. Call 486-9661 to request your mailbox.

Gay and Lesbian Awareness (G.A.L.A.)

We are an organization interested in human rights issues especially related to sexual orientation and changing Federal and Provincial legislation. We are always interested in new members. If you are interested call David Sanders at 487-2684.

Illusions Social Club

A social club for the TV/TS oriented. Our goal is to provide a safe, discrete meeting of kind in safe meeting

locations. It's time to come out of the closet. For more information please write to Illusions, Box 33002, Glenwood PO, Edmonton, AB T5P 4V8 or phone (403) 486-9661

Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations which either provide direct services to gay and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held monthly on the last Wednesday. For meeting location and time please see the Court notice boards in Boots and Saddle or the Roost. You may also call Gaylines at 486-9661 and press box 27.

Interfaith Association on AIDS Edmonton

The purpose of this association is to sensitize local faith communities and their leaders to the unique spiritual and emotional needs of those infected by HIV/AIDS. The following faith communities are included: Anglican, Baha'i, Baptist, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Roman Catholic, Temple Beth Ora, Ukrainian Catholic, Unitarian and United Churches. Phone 488-5742 for more information.

Les-Bi-Gay Darts Club

This is an informal and social dart club. No previous experience is necessary. We are here to have some fun and meet each other in an open atmosphere. There are no fees. We gather at GLCCE the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. Call 428-8847 or 421-4427.

Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support in. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counselling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through our society. Phone 488-5768

Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)

We are a local church within the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our major focus is to the deframed of society. The UFMCC allows anyone to feel a part of the Christian Community and to claim our place in God's Universe. Services are open to all. We worship on Sunday evenings and on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Please feel free to join us! Call 429-2321 for more information.

Northern Chaps

Edmonton's Leather - Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established six years ago. We strike to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern chaps meets at Boots & Saddle on the first and third Friday of each month at 9:00 P.M.

Northern Titans

Northern Titans is the Gay and Lesbian bowling league in Edmonton. You are welcome to join the league either as a team member or a drop in. Bowling time is 5:15 every Saturday at Lynwood Bowl on 16127 - 118 Avenue. There is a \$12.00 charge for shoes and three games. Call Joe 454-1458 or Doug at 488-5421

Pink Triangle Youth of Edmonton (P.T.Y.E.)

The Pink Triangle Youth Group is a program offered by the Community Centre. The youth group exists so that young people age 16 to 21 - lesbians, gays, bisexuals and those wondering about their sexuality can explore their feelings, meet other young people like themselves. Information is available to all along with fun in a safe, supportive environment. Phone 488-1574 for more information about the Youth Group.

Shotgun Dancers

If you enjoy country and western music and dancing you may want to get involved with our group. You can learn line dancing on Tuesday evenings at 8:00. There are no costs but lots of fun. We get involved in various functions throughout the year. Call Gaylines at 486-9661, Box 6 for more details.

Team Edmonton

Our goal is to enhance Edmonton's Gay and Lesbian community by facilitating participation in sporting, cultural, and leisure activities at the local, national and international levels. If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton we meet the last Saturday of every month, 7:00 P.M. at #104, 11745 - Jasper Avenue. You can call 486-9661 Box 16 for more info.

Womonspace

The purpose of Womonspace is to foster a positive of Lesbian identity among ourselves and the larger community. We hold dances, produce a newsletter and hold other activities. For information call the Lesbian Life Life at 425-0511.

If you are an Edmonton based Gay or Lesbian Community non-profit group and wish to be included in this directory send a short description to Times .10 Magazine, Box 932, Edmonton, AB T5J 2L8

COMMUNITY FORMING AND NORMALIZATION

by Richard Kennair, (Associate Editor)

Those who know me know that my educational background is Sociological. I studied Symbolic Interaction and concentrated on the areas of deviance and consensual crime -this is what my degree is in. In this article, I am going to use some of my Sociological background to investigate the notion of community forming and the normalization of consensual deviant activity. This investigation will be very brief and general, whole texts have been written on the subject. Prior to continuing, please note that I have left references and sources out of this article for reasons of continuity, in addition, when I mention homosexuality, I refer to lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, pro-gay individuals and any individual or group self-identifying with our community or supportive of it. If anybody is wishing to read up on this subject, contact the magazine, and I will be happy to provide a bibliography.

One of the better definitions of deviant activity I have found is: "Any acts, thoughts or products of actions found disrespectful by some audience." Implied in this statement is that any size group can define deviance within, and to an extent without that group. A nation state defines its notions of deviance through the formation, and striking down, of laws - in Canada a decision of democratically elected individuals. A religious group forms theirs on the basis of the tenets of that group, while a gang might base theirs on what they decide to do at the time. Deviance is, therefore, very situational - and group based. Generally, the smaller the group, the more the definition is open to negotiation within that group, and the more influence individual members of that group have in the defining of deviance. A notion of deviance on the societal scale, for

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Options Room - April 2

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Showtime - 11:00 PM

hIGH tECH

Communications

by J.Long

When a person logs onto a BBS, they will almost always find a message area. I've noticed that people new to the BBS scene almost never use the message areas. I think that this, in a large part, is due to the fact that they have no understanding of what the message area does, or what kind of services it can provide for them. At most, new users perceive the message areas as a place to leave messages to other users of that BBS in order to socialize. Message areas are far more than this, and can provide an extremely powerful networking and information gathering tool.

Message areas are usually organized into conferences. Each conference has a particular topic that it focuses on. The topics can range from being broad, such as "Everything under the Sun", to narrow, such as the "Discussion of the Newest Music on CD".

There are two types of message conferences generally available to users of BBS'. The first type of conference is a local conference. Local conferences are confined to a single BBS, and people who use that BBS are able to leave messages to other users of that BBS. The second type of conference is generally called an "echomail" conference. A message entered into an echomail conference will find its way to all other BBS' which carry that conference within days, depending where the other BBS' are located.

BBS' that carry echo mail are mem-

bers of networks. A network is a group of BBS' that exchange mail, most of which is mail that originates in echo mail conferences. Networks range in scope from local — 2 or more BBS' exchanging mail in one or more conferences — to an international network like Fidonet, comprising 30,000+ BBS's from all parts of the world exchanging mail in hundreds of echo-mail conferences. If you consider that each of these 30,000 BBS' has a minimum of 100 users, that's 3,000,000+ people networked together for information exchange on various topics.

Let's take a practical example of how it works. I want to buy a CD player. I know nothing about them. I log onto a local BBS which carries the CD echomail conference. I write a message to 'All' in that conference asking what kind of CD player people would recommend for under \$500 dollars. As a user of a BBS, my part is done. I would wait for the replies.

What happen unseen to me, is that after I log off, the message is sent to another BBS which acts as the central message collector (or Mail Hub) for that region/city. The HUB will make sure that every other BBS in the city who is a member of that network gets the message. In addition, the Hub will send all the mail that it has collected for the city to a BBS that acts as a collection point for a larger geographical area. Eventually, that mail will be sent up to a satellite, where it is collected around the world, and distributed to the regional and local BBS's. A person in say, Germany, may read the message and reply to it. The reply will follow the same process, and

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A few Bulletin Board Services in Edmonton

The Beast	433-3787
Toys for Boys	497-7816
Leather n Lace	430-8211
Full Circle	425-2535
Ten Forward	424-3258
Circular Ruins/2	453-5711

eventually make it through satellites back to the BBS where the original message was written.

So, I log onto the BBS a few days later, and there is a message waiting for me from some guy in Germany who might be able to recommend a CD Player to me if I tell him what \$500 is worth in German Marks. ;-)

The amount of information that is available is staggering. The only requirement for access is a home computer and a local call to a BBS. Best of all, it's free!

COME HOME TO ME

Sitting at the kitchen table and staring out in the darkness of night, I can see the people walking briskly to their destinations. Are they going home to their loved ones? Are they aware that someone is watching them from afar?

From my kitchen window, I sit and feel the sick and lonely feeling I get when I stare out and wonder where my loved one is. Does he know I'm sitting here again, waiting for him to come home?

Sitting at my kitchen table, staring out into the busy, darkness of evening. I leave my kitchen light off. In the dar, I can't bear to see the reflection of my tear-stained face, staring back at me.

I curse myself at being emotionally vulnerable. I'm a soft-hearted woman who stares out the kitchen window, knowing full well that the people I see walking out there can't see me.

And I sit and wait, in the darkness of my kitchen, staring out the window into the night, wondering when my loved one will come home to me.

- Krystal

Awake

by Scott Astle

The shadow of the fluttering curtain caste itself ever so faintly across our bodies. The awakening glow of dawn broke the night's darkness, and allowed a hazy glimpse of his sleeping body. With little movement I looked around at our interlaced bodies that were scantily covered by a single sheet. The cool morning breeze carried the freshness of the late night rain, and a sudden reminder of the heat that lied between us in our resting. I snuggled closer to his soft contours, warming myself from the breeze passing though the open window. The softness of his skin rippled in goosebumps with my ever so light caresses. The roughness of his coarse facial hair was complemented by the most delicate of skin around his dreaming eyes. His lips although dry, pouted slightly in their relaxed state, with an occasional twitch along his lip line as he dreamed. Freshly made memories danced in my mind of our evening together, alone, sharing, together.

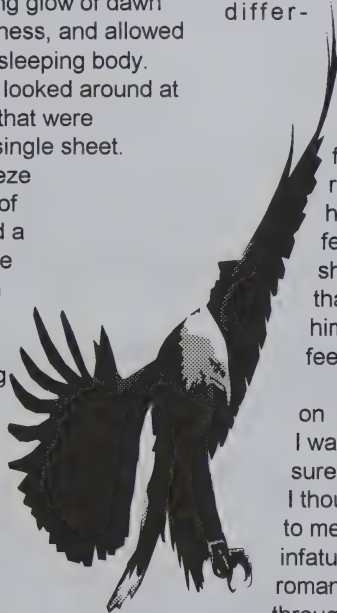
As I got up from the couch, where

we had ever so quaintly fell asleep, I realized we had fallen adrift in midst of conversation. The hours of fondue, the wine, and endless conversation had set us adrift. Spread across the coffee table lied the fondue pots, although the burners were out, it was not put away. The cheese began to harden, the chocolate was thick and the oil had darkened. The miscellaneous platters of food were dried out, and overall, there was a mess to be cleaned up. But all that didn't matter at the moment.

Somehow, in some un-descriptive form, I felt different. Secure? No, that was not it, loved? Well maybe, but things were to new to call it loved. As I looked back at him lying on the couch when I was removing the fondue accessories to the kitchen. I realized I felt something for him, but how? In what way? I was not new to feeling or having love-like relationships, but at the moment it was like that but it wasn't. I have only known him for a short time, why does this feel so strong?

As I set the platters and pots down on the counter top, I sighed heavily. I was bothered by all this, and was not sure what to do with what I was feeling. I thought back to words of wisdom given to me through friends and family. Was it infatuation? Lust? Friendship? True romance? Or just loneliness talking through my feelings? I began to confuse myself with the dilemma of thoughts and emotions. I was lost in finding an explanation for what was happening. I wanted to run wild with my feelings, they were too strong to ignore, too deep to put aside, too real not to acknowledge. I could feel my stomach starting to turn, my palms sweat, and my thoughts scatter.

Why after six months of friendship, was all this appearing so fast. Where was it last week? Last month?! (cont'd on page 32)



Feeling All Cooped Up?



Get Out - Get Laid



Music by Mikee

Boy George "The Devil In Sister George EP" (Virgin-UK) This release is a re-hash of Georgie's older and newer cuts, from the days of Culture Club to his solo releases. Totalling 5 tracks with all fitting into a very catchy house vien. "Miss Me Blind" (122bpm) (one of my personal favorites) manages to keep a harder edge musically with his sultry volcals smoothing out the lengthy 7:10 min. of this one nicely. This one brings back some pretty good memories from 1983 for me, I think, from what I can remember from 1983 anyway. **BLAH BLAH BLAH !!!** "Generations of Love" (123bpm) has a great hypnotic quality and a groovin' house beat. A little on the lite side, but nothing to balk at. Good early or late evening, your choice. Other note worthy cuts are, "Am I Losing Control" (122bpm) (only on the herion buddy) & "Everything I Own" (87bpm) has a great reggae feel for those of you, who like me, demand a bit of variety in their

life.**** Mikee

Cappella "Move on Baby" (125bpm- (ZYX-Germany) This 7 track EP falls in the same dance-techno style as earlier releases by this artist. They remind me of a fluffier 2-Unlimited or Culture Club with the house mix having the same rap stylings as these artists. The Ralph and Professor Mix (125bpm) strikes me as the most interesting with it's dub style and music change ups, some of which have a unique minimalistique diva and musical quality. The Plus Staples Mix (138bpm) has a more hyper quality, typical rave music here but with some female vocal stabs to break it up a little. The Original Mix carries the full vocal track, and it's not a bad at that. Not a bad single overall with a little for everyone, well dance, techno, rave and house anyway. Sorry girls no country here..... "Move on Baby".*** Mikee

Biosphere "Seti Project" (R & S Records-Belguim) The first mix of the title track clocks in at 151bpm and has an ambient rave



423-HOMO
10148-105 STREET

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY: 99¢ NIGHT

TUESDAY: Woman 2 Woman

WEDNESDAY: MAN HUNT

THURSDAY: ALL NEW IN APRIL with Mikee Brennan

FRIDAY: SPRING INTO THE WEEKEND

SATURDAY: D.J. TRAVIS

SUNDAY: "A STAR IS BORN" KARAOKE
TALENT NIGHT

HAPPY HOUR 6 - 9 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY

quality. Subdued sizzling fast percussion with a dreamy synth track. Track 2 "The Fairy Tale" 116bpm makes a nice easy listening techno track for late evenings. When you've exhausted your dancers this could be a good cool down transitional cut to your next hard-core set. The track 3 "Seti Project" (Remix) is a little more ambient but does fall in the same vein as "The Fairy Tale". "Cloud X-3" (126bpm) is a pretty groovy minimalistic ditty which has an excellent funky feel to it, they sparsatically use that synth effect from "This is Acid" by Maurice which gives it that funky quality. Happenin' tunes baby.***1/2 Mikee

Eye Q Compilation Vol. 1 "Behind The Eye" (WEA-Germany) There's not much I can say about this compilation except for the fact that it is a must have for the Techno-Trance collector! It has a total of 11 tracks and I think there was only one that I didn't care for. An excellent label with artists like Energy 52, Sonic Infusion, Zyon, Virtual Symmetry, Go Ahead, Odysee of Noises, Mirage, The Volunteers, Java and Brainchild. ****1/2 Mikee

Various Artists "Kinky Trax 3" (SRD-England) The definitive compilation of disco garage grooves with house attitude keeping it underground! The stand out cuts on this 12-track CD are..... the envelope please. Dajae "U Got Me up" (124bpm), Stories in Dubh "Melody And Harmony" (123bpm), Eleanore Mills "Be Here" (113bpm), Bobby Pruit "Tried So Hard" (122bpm), and my favorite UBQ Project "When I Fall In Love" (121bpm)*** Mikee

Jam & Spoon "Right in The Night" (Sony Music-Germany) My favorite cut off the "2001" CD. In comparison, these remixes leave alot to be desired, but on there own they do stand up pretty good. There's definately a switch to more of a techno-trance flow on all three of these remixes, with the Jam & Spoon Remix being more melodic then the "Microbots Remix" and the instrumental "DJ Kid Paul Mix" Tempos vary from 143bpm, 142, and 148bpm respectively. There's also a remix of "Follow Me" clocking in at 153bpm.

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The Flame

by J. R. Achtemichuk

I sit mesmerized by the flame as it flickers to and fro, at the mercy of any breeze that may blow. I feel the warmth of the water all around. The only sound is the echoing call of the waterfall thundering behind. I am not alone. I feel a body next to mine. As I turn our eyes meet, the flame's reflection flickers on in our eyes igniting a blaze deep inside. As our lips meet there is a taste of wine. The scent of sweet grapes is all around. I like the taste of the wine on flesh. It is so enticing, I must have more.

I reach over and take hold of my glass, I take a sip to wet my lips, then continue on my quest. I take hold of the body before me, pushing it back until it comes to rest comfortably flexed. I slowly pour the wine, watching as it rolls down over the breast and onto the nipples which are now erect. I wonder at the flames reflection in the beads of wine on this body so warm and sensual. I move closer till my lips touch the torso where the wine has now pooled. My tongue runs down the ridges of the belly button, quickly draining the pond that had formed there. The taste is sweet and tantalizing. This only intrigues my tongue which is now yearning for more. My tongue slowly climbs out of the belly button, moving up the torso, making its way over the chest. It continues onto the erect nipple, which my teeth softly begin to nibble. The body stiffens as a moan leaves the lips, the bodies

move into the mist. My tongue slowly moves over the chest to the other waiting nipple. I move over teasingly, just barely touching it as I move by. Then by gently blowing on it I make it stiffen more, before softly nibbling on. The body stiffens as a hand pushes my head tight against its chest, as we two move closer to the waterfall. I can feel the water running down my back, while my tongue moves up to the base of the neck. I pull myself back moving quickly to the torso. I begin my climb, this time in one swift movement, between the ribs through the chest, finally moving the full length of the neck and softly sucking on the chin. Our bodies shiver as we take hold, our lips touch once again. I reach over, taking hold of the glass of wine, filling my mouth until our lips meet. As our tongues touch the wine begins rolling down our throats. We kiss hard, pulling our bodies together, gliding across one another on a cushion of water as we move under the waterfall. The water thunders over us, our hands savagely stroking each others bodies. The flame is now erupting deep inside, our falling bodies explode in ecstasy as they hit the water. Our submerged bodies slowly rise, we lay entangled, we are now one. Our hearts beat in unison, the water pours in. One last kiss before we must move on. As our lips depart I look through the steam to see the candle's flame still flickering on. I stand, reach over and turn the shower off. It is time to go.

(Community - from page 20) example drug use, may be viewed as a normative and expected behaviour in a drug house - and traditional authority viewed as deviant.

When looking at deviance through the above, it is evident that one group may define an action which is legal on the societal level as deviant within its own tenets. This group may then attempt to promote their particular notion of right, and have it made into law. If successful, the result would be an action which is not inherently wrong being made illegal -and therefore deviant on the societal level (a prime example of this is the prohibition movement in the early decades of this century). The actions of these moral entrepreneurs (the sociological term for those who promote their notions of right) don't necessarily have to occur on a societal level, and can be applied to smaller groups. A good example of these are organizations who actively recruit individuals to convert to their views, or, for an individual, that certain lady who often appears in the paper with her tirades against strippers..

Consensual deviant activity has, historically, been labelled by the actions of moral entrepreneurs. Consensual deviance, actions between consenting individuals deemed "immoral" and "not right" by some group, may not be inherently wrong. Homosexuality falls into this category. It is not illegal in Canada - yet is deviant. Although you may argue, and I hope you do, that homosexuality is not deviant, if you look at the fact that it wasn't too long ago when it was still classed as a psychiatric illness, and was illegal a quarter century ago - it is still a deviant activity. Being gay or lesbian is not normative to the whole of society. However, when looked at through the homosexual community, being "straight" isn't normative to us.

One of the "quirks" of human nature is that individuals tend to congregate among those of their own kind, or those who share a common interest. That is how communities are formed. This is particularly so among the disenfranchised members of society. Communities take many forms: towns known for their ethnicity (Glendon and the Perogy, Vegreville and their Egg); neighbourhoods such as the "Chinatown" found in every major city; and the relatively (cont'd on page 31)



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Edmonton Vocal Minority members

Northern Chaps - (cont'd from

page 9) At the Alberta Drummer Competition, a Mr. Alberta Drummer and a Drummer Boy are chosen. The Mr. Drummer competition is in 4 parts. The first is a private interview with the judges (to determine things such as commitment and suitability), followed by a public speech (how does the person deal with the public), and then the jockstrap competition (nice basket, eh? Their concession to the beauty myth). If you get the "beauty pageant" feeling from this watch out. The final part (which I alluded to earlier), is the Fantasy. This is the opportunity for the contestant to express what he really is. A minimum of 5 minutes long, the individual creates and acts out a fantasy - pretty well anything, within legal limits, is allowed. Although the quality of the fantasy is important, the control shown is just as important (referring to the "safe" aspect). The contestant must know what he is doing. Mike, who has done fantasy numbers before, has some interesting stories about them ... ask him about the block of wax and the blow torch. He also made the comment that, for him, his numbers aren't fantasy, they're reality.

The Drummer Boy is quite different than the Drummer, the only similarity in the competition being the interview. The Drummer Boy is scored by the Drummer contestants. The Boy contestants assist the Drummer contestants throughout the competition. It is primarily the Drummer contestants who judge them. For those who do not know what a "Boy" is, it is an individual who likes helping people, someone who receives gratification from helping. Perhaps the best way to explain it is to show as an example Mike's boy, who to him is just as much a part of his family. He will come over and help clean, shine boots, etc., expecting nothing in return. He is not compelled to do so, but just wants

to.

The winners of the Alberta Drummer, go on to Vancouver for the Western Canadian Drummer, where there are 4 contestants for Drummer. The winners from that go on to San Francisco (where else?) for the International Drummer, where there are presently 19 competitors from around the world.

Perhaps the greatest statement that Mike stated in regards to Northern Chaps was that it was an expression of what is in your heart and soul. Open and forthright, they have no need for facades.

If you are interested in Northern Chaps, they have "Pub Night" every 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month at Boots 'n Saddles. Do not be afraid to talk to them, you have nothing to fear, and they will talk to you. Also, the Alberta Drummer Competition will be happening here in Edmonton on June 18th (we will have more details in the June Issue).

Mike, you never did try those nipple clamps on me like you said you would when we arranged this interview. Thanks!

DUST by Sam

I remember once I seen a light but now it has turned to night. I remembered the killing pain as I watched the pouring rain. I cried my stinging tear as he whispered stinging words in my ear.

They say life moves on but I can't because he's gone. I cry and weep in sorrow the pain will last till tomorrow. When he said his goodbyes... all he told me, were lies.

His love was full of betrayal and our love went stale. I guess our love was in a cage until I turned the other page. The love we shared turned to dark and the pain he gave left a mark.

I guess love burns but the world still turns. I just want to left in shock, and let him keep the lock. Our love has lost it's lust, and now our love has turned to dust.

Community - (cont'd from page 29

)intangible, which is where the Homosexual Community exists. These "intangible" communities are most often referred to as sub-cultures. The homosexual community is intangible in that the numbers are not readily quantifiable. One can estimate with relative accuracy the population of an ethnic group in Canada or the number of people in a town. With the homosexual community that is not possible. One has to identify oneself as a member, through identifying themselves as a homosexual (ie. coming out of the closet). Just as one must be accepted into any other community, one must be accepted as a member of the gay community.

Through the formation of communities, and the support arising from them, the common defining factor in that community becomes "sacred" and maintained - deviant stigma may become accepted and expected, the unique culture of the community becomes protected and promoted. Through

this development, strength rises up within that community through the support of its members - be they few or many. These communities have the potential of becoming their own moral entrepreneurs - promoting their own notions of right. In a community such as ours, founded upon a consensual deviant activity, that activity then becomes normative within that community. As strength develops, the approach may be made to promote the normalcy of the activity outside of the community. As the community grows, diversity within that community also grows, and the formation of other communities develop (such as the leather/levi community). Again these communities arise out of commonly shared interests and act as normalizing agents for their particular interests. Such sub-communities may include the disenfranchised of that community (older gays are, unfortunately, viewed as "undesirable" within the night club scene) or those with specific interests (Womyn, Drag, Leather, TV/TS, etc.). (cont'd on page 36)

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(Awake - conti'd from page 24)

Desires of wild emotions began turmoil in my mind, conjuring up the wildest of hopes, dreams, and fantasies. As a returned to the kitchen from my emotional runaway of wishful pictures I realized I was overflowing the sink, and standing in a puddle of dishwater. I cursed myself profusely, then cleaned up the mess.

The sound of him stirring on the couch mademe stop everything abruptly, and check to see if he had awoken. As I looked around the corner I had found out he had done nothing more than stretched, and turned over. Looking at his person I was in awe, and so confused about it. I had seen him as my friend, how could I feel this way now? My mind continued to struggle with the restrictive parameters I was labelling within. Was it not possible that we were finally open? I knew we were honest with each other, I knew we had closeness, but could it be that we were actually getting emotionally open with each other? As this question worked it's way across my thoughts I recalled different times of mental notes, seeing him as attractive, even loving, warm, comforting. I began to panic, was all this just building up to last night? Was last night the awakening?

My thoughts now sped at speeds I could not understand, I had to sit down. Not only was I confused, but now worried. I was afraid I had lost the friend I depended on, afterall, how could I expect him to handle what I was feel-

ing? He would freak!! My hands were noticably beading from sweat, my heart was pounding at the edge of my flesh. The reality of my feelings this morning when I had awoke crashed upon my thoughts like a shock wave of a explosion. I gasped for breathe. All at once I realized I had touched him, touched him softly. I touched my friend in a way I don't touch friends! Panic played with my innards like that of a poolka on a squeeze-box. I felt weak, sick, sad, disgusted, worried, mad... and yet somehow, ever so excited.

And that excitement lead the way to a sensual friendship of love that lasted for over two years before we went different directions.

.... Within the human need of acknowledgement and placement, we humans, sometimes fall victim to our own labels and the restrictions of such. To have growth within any form of human interaction there must be the understanding the within "growth" there will be unforeseen changes. Some of which positive, some negative. In this for-instance, growth was within the awaking of emotions of two men. Two men that wanted to share so much, yet had labeled it impossible.

... until that one day...

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A Times .10 Publications Soceity Production

Letter to the Editor - (cont'd from page 11) The only reference to this is the term sexual

dysphoria which refers to individuals who are unhappy with or unadjusted to their sexual orientation. Therapy is aimed at assisting such individuals to become better adjusted. Of interest, Sigmund Freud did not consider homosexuality to be a matter of concern and this was expressed in his writings. (Letter to an American Mother, April 9, 1935).

All medical evidence suggest that a homosexual orientation is a biological characteristic of an individual, developed before or relatively soon after birth. It is not chosen. It is immutable. What is chosen is how homosexuality, like heterosexuality, is expressed, referred to as a "lifestyle". Some homosexuals are promiscuous, some engage in unusual sexual practices and there are some homosexual pedophiles (less than 10% of the total number). As with other oppressed groups in the past, there is some negative activism. All of this represents a visible but small minority. Like heterosexuals, the vast majority of homosexuals conduct their sexual lives discreetly, in private, and monogamously.

As human beings are gregarious and have invariably lived in groups or tribes as far back as the beginning of recorded history, there is evidence to suggest that the presence of homosexuality represents survival value, not for the individual and his or her genetic replication, but for the entire society in which the individual lives. Like bees in a hive, members of society are different for a reason, each and all playing roles that contribute to the common good of the entire group and thus helping to ensure survival.

It is time that "gay bashing" stopped and everyone began to look upon the inherent worth of all members of society and the contribution that each and every person makes. It is also time to put away biblical quotations, often used to denounce homosexuality. Although probably inherently wise at the time and context in which they were written, such quotations no longer apply to our modern world, at least if a literal interpretation is made. Furthermore, if one verse in a book from the bible is thought to be reflective of a truth, then all verses must be regarded in the same way. Unfortunately, quotes are usually made very selectively. For example, Leviticus, Chapter 18, Verse 22 is often recited as the bible's damnation of homosexuality. In the same book, however, references are also made to death as punishment for adultery (Chapter 20, Verse 10), that the eating of certain types of flesh such as pork, hare or ostrich is unclean and forbidden (Chapter 11, Verses 4, 6, 7, 17). Worse yet, Chapter 21 has a section entitled "Irregularities" which gives a list of those individuals not allowed to offer up food at the altar. The list includes those individuals who are blind, disfigured, lame, humpbacked, or walleyed (cataracts). Not very compassionate to say the least!

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" and "Love thy neighbour" seem to be a much more appropriate credos for our modern society.

"Sex in History", a book written by Reahy Tannahill, (published 1980) makes for delightful reading. It helps put the political issues of homosexuality versus heterosexuality into perspective.

Dr. Lorne Warneke, Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Alberta.

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Review: Edmonton Vocal Minority -

The Edmonton Vocal Minority provided a packed house with a glorious performance February 19. Love a la Carte offered a great menu of love songs from Broadway musicals with portions of the music adapted to a discerning palate of the Vocal Minority's friends and supporters.

" I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair " and " I'm just a Girl Who Can't Say No " were just two of the songs adapted for gay and lesbian choirs. They brought peels of delighted laughter from the audience, who revelled in the rich variation the musical menu provided.

Comfortable Shoes featuring Kathy Da Silva's original songs added a different flavour to the evening's cuisine.

On April 23 the Edmonton Vocal Minority will be presenting JUBA at 8:00 pm at Convocation Hall. JUBA captures the spirit, pulse and rhythm of Africa in their entrancing music. This will be another presentation by the Edmonton Vocal Minority that is just too good to miss. So Get your tickets early.

Tickets are available at South Side Sound, Boystown, The AIDS Network and from EVM members for \$8.00 and \$10.00 or \$12.00 at the door.

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Darling of Porn (from page 17)

Nina stated how the male porn stars have a really hard time with relationships - as they can't fake it, their sex becomes really impersonal, and it is harder for them in a relationship setting. Nina can't help but wonder about the fact that after a while they must have to fantasize to be able to do a scene, and as time goes on, these fantasies must get weirder and weirder. She commented that some actors have been involved in porn so long, and have fantasized so much that she didn't want to know what they fantasized about ... it would probably disgust even her.

On her Future. As in gay porn, where the new meat is often the most desirable, so it is in straight porn. However, in straight porn, there is a greater longevity (look at some of the male stars who making films who would never be allowed to do a gay film). As has been mentioned earlier, Nina is going towards the direction/production side of porn. Some of her current projects are entitled "How to Suck C..." and "How to Eat P...". Intended to be educational in nature, Nina thought that too many people would go "What's Fellatio" or "What's Cunnilingus" should she use the clinical term. One of Nina's projects is an all-Canadian porn, for which actors/actresses were being sought a couple of months ago, which will likely have to be shot in the States now (see the final note). In relation to the Male Stars, Nina would like to do research on what they go through. She feels that their life must be tougher, yet nobody has really researched them, instead concentrating on the "classic" victims of

porn - the female stars.

As a final note ... Nina was expelled from Canada shortly after I spoke to her. Apparently when she first tried to enter she was refused as undesirable, so she flew to the other end of the country and drove over the border. Immigration finally caught up with her a few weeks later. Yes, the Mounties always get their man. After weeks of radio advertisements stating when and where she would be, it took a few cities to find her.

As Nina will be reading this, I'm sure ... Girlfriend, you didn't send me the photo, and we didn't swap cheese-cake recipes!

Photo Credits: Thanks to Adults Only Video for letting me use the Photos. Photo 1: Me Thrust in Nina's Bosom Photo 2: Nina being "escorted" ... nice handcuffs ... is that smile due to you liking bondage or something?

Chapter 13: A Closed Book

I am losing the feeling in my toes. The cold eats my soul like a cannibal starved for flesh.

Anyone who cared could have helped but they didn't, anyone I love might have loved me, who knows.

Abandonment, a mother bares a child and leaves it in the cold, to freeze and then the soul dies.

A car stops, I step inside, a deal is made and we drive away. I make love, no, it's just sex for a fifty dollar bill. Discusting phrases are passed like a tennis ball in a life and death match.

All and all, I have power over this man, he needs me, he feeds off me, he has to have me, climax. Anger sets in as I feel rage, inequality, I am just a whore. Oh God take me now. I am thrown out in the cold as fast as I am picked up.

A light at the end of the tunnel. Now I'm off the streets: But I have some questions for you: Do you love me now that I am not a whore?

Do you exclude me now? Why?

Who do you think you are?

I am a person, flesh and blood, I do what I have to, I am a SURVIVOR.

Zachery Campbell

Community - (from page 31)The homosexual community is a very unique community unlike any other in society. Because membership in the community is limited only by sexuality, there is a diversity within the membership rivalling society. This prevents the possibility of immobility found in other deviant communities (eg. prostitutes in Canada as compared to those in the Netherlands). The diversity of the membership has also resulted in a firm foothold within society upon which to make a stand, and to attempt to remove the deviant label from our activities. The removal of the deviant label is necessary for a community to survive and to gain credibility. In other words, for long term survival and credibility, the normalization of homosexuality as a viable alternative to heterosexuality is vital. In the homosexual community there has been some success in this. However, not as much as is desired.

The normalization of any act of deviance is not restricted to making an action or activity legal, it is to have that action accepted as a normal part of society. Homosexuality is legal in

Canada, though it is still deemed deviant. Until it is viewed as an equal alternative to heterosexuality it will always be deviant. All of us know why we are labelled as deviant -we were raised to believe that those committing the thoughts and actions that we do were deviant, and had the challenge of normalizing our own actions within ourselves and those closest to us. We had to change our thinking, and that is the obstacle facing us as a whole. While the initial goal may be to secure true equal rights, those rights must be utilized to promote the normalcy of homosexuality.

There will always be groups that are homophobic, as there are groups who are xenophobic and racist. But we have made a start, and we can't stop. For the relative youth of our community as an organized political force we have made great advances. When one realizes that Canada was apartheid until the 1960's (in regards to Natives), and that the courts have been consistently ruling in our favour, the end may be in sight.



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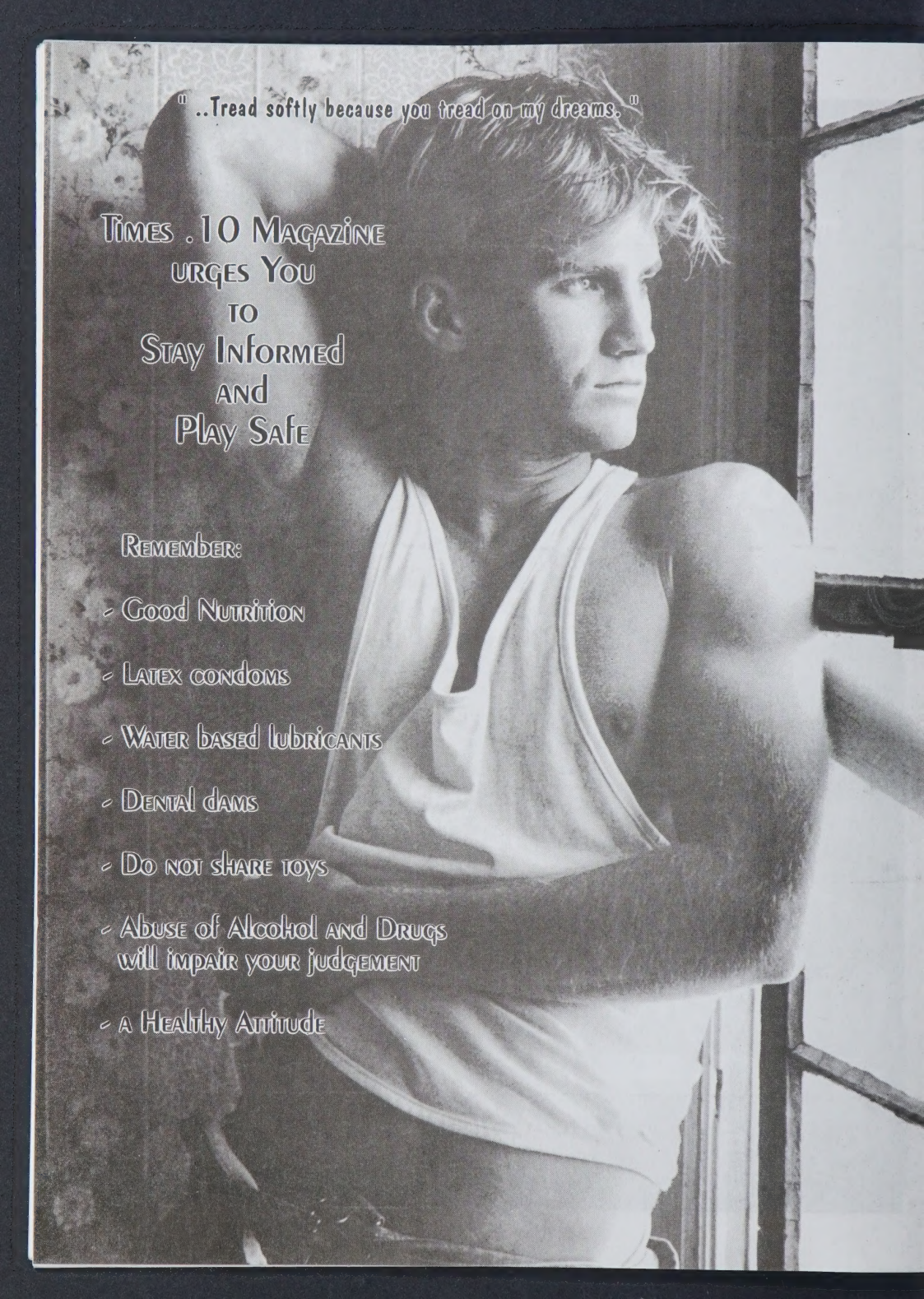
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